**FLESFEST 2017-Alverno College Credit Option**

**Course Name: Strategies to Build Curriculum, Communication and Language Proficiency in the World Language Classroom at Early/Beginning Levels *(ED-698-02)***

**Dates:** February 25-April 25, 2017

**Credit: 1**

**Course Description:** Participants in this course will have the opportunity to expand their knowledge and skills using best practices to incorporate communication strategies that foster increased creativity and flexibility in communicative proficiency in world language classes for younger/beginning learners. Participants will attend a one-day conference (FLESFEST) where they will gain knowledge of proficiency-based strategies for incorporating strategies of Active Listening and Visual Thinking routines, Play-focused learning, as well as incorporate technology and cultural products, practices and perspectives to promote communication strategies that engage students in their learning. At the end of this course, participants will be able to synthesize what they have learned through self-reflection and plan accordingly for integration and implementation of these strategies into the development/redevelopment of a unit plan as well as daily lesson/learning plans.

**Course Outcomes**

Participants will:

1. Expand their current teaching strategies to incorporate strategic communication strategies that foster meaningful, standards-based communication and student language proficiency in early/beginning language learning classes.
2. Incorporate play-focused strategies into lesson activities and assessments to facilitate creativity and flexibility in order to promote increased communicative proficiency with students in the target language.
3. Self-assess through professional reflections on how to incorporate communication strategies into thematic units, lesson activities and performance assessments.
4. Develop strategies to incorporate Active Listening techniques and Visual Thinking routines into student learning activities and assessments.
5. Revise or develop a thematic unit of study that highlights specific communication strategies that students will learn and be able to apply to enhance their proficiency in the target language.

**Credit Option Requirements:**

* Attend FLESFEST 2017 1 day workshop at Alverno College (February 25, 2017): 8:00AM-3:30PM
* Read 3 Articles (minimum) provided that relate to the topics presented during FLESFEST 2017
* Write a Reflection Paper (4-5 pages maximum), synthesizing articles as well as sessions attended at FLESFEST 2017, including ideas for future implementation into class units and/or lesson plans
* Design and/or revise at least 1 thematic unit (including one learning/lesson plan sample) with implementation of above objectives and World Readiness for Learning Languages standards highlighted, incorporating items learned at FLESFEST 2017.

All course materials can be found at: [www.flesfestcredit.wikispaces.com](http://www.flesfestcredit.wikispaces.com)

**Deadline for Submission of Materials: April 25, 2017 (11:59PM)**

**Please submit all materials in one folder electronically (Google Docs is acceptable) to:**

**Lynn Sessler Neitzel**

[**lmneitzel@gmail.com**](mailto:lmneitzel@gmail.com)

**Questions? Contact Lynn Sessler Neitzel:** [**lmneitzel@gmail.com**](mailto:lmneitzel@gmail.com)

**Phone: 920-931-2953**

**Reading selections:**

FLESFEST 2017 Session:  Can you image traveling without even leaving your classroom?

ARTICLE:  Making and taking virtual field trips in Pre-K and the Primary Grades

<http://www.naeyc.org/tyc/files/tyc/file/V6N2/Kirchen_Virtual_Field_Trips_Online%201111.pdf>

FLESFEST 2017 Session: How do visible thinking routines help learners think deeply and become curiouser and curiouser?

ARTICLE:  Tools to enhance young children's thinking

<https://www.naeyc.org/tyc/files/tyc/file/V4N5/Tools%20to%20Enhance%20Young%20CHildren's%20Thinking.pdf>

FLESFEST 2017 Session:  How can play guide our students successfully through the wonderland of language and culture?

ARTICLE:  Language learning through play

<https://www.goethe.de/en/spr/mag/20476976.html>

FLESFEST 2017 Session:  Do you wonder how good listening leads to asking good questions?

ARTICLE:  Let's talk about listening

<http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/literacynumeracy/inspire/research/talk_about_listening.pdf>

FLESFEST 2017 Keynote: Curiosity

ARTICLE: The case for curiosity

<http://www.ascd.org/publications/educational-leadership/feb13/vol70/num05/The-Case-for-Curiosity.aspx>